

A  
True Relation of  
the Late Battell fought  
in *New England*, between  
the English, and the  
*Salvages*:

VVith the present state of  
things there.

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*Ad Lectorem*

Authoris carmen *ἑυχαίστωρ* de Victo-  
ria hac Nov'-Anglica, 1637.

**D**ucit in Americam varios gens Angla Colonos:  
et bene conveniunt sydera, terra, solum.  
Ast ferus hoc prohibet, solus vagabundus in arvis,  
insolitoq; aliquos, incola, Marte necat.  
Quod simul iniustus crimen pervenit ad aures  
Angligenum, ira o murmure cuncta fremunt.  
Tunc laeta iusta arma movent, hostemq; sequuntur,  
struxerat, haud vavis, qui munimenta locis.  
Invadunt vallum, palis sudibusq; munitum:  
(pax erit: hoc uno solvitur ira modo.)  
Undiq; concidunt omnes, pars una crematur:  
post, caesi, aut capti cetera turba luit.  
Vtraq; latatur Pequetanis Anglia victis,  
et novus aeternum, hic, figimur hospes ait.  
Virginia exultat, vicina Novonia gaudet,  
Signaq; secura certa quietis habent.  
Plaudite qui colitis Mavortia sacra nepotes,  
et serat incultos tutus arator agros.  
Qua novus orbis erat, spiranti numine, (Lector)  
Anglia nascetur, qua novus orbis erit.

P. Vincentius,







A true Relation of the late Battell  
fought in *New England*, between the  
*English* and *Salvages*, with the present  
state of things there.



*New England*, a name now  
every day more famous,  
is so called, because the  
English were the first  
Discoverers, & are now  
the Planters thereof. It  
is the Easterne Coast of  
the North part of *America*, upon the  
Southwest adjoyning to *Virginia*, and  
part of that Continent, large and capable  
of innumerable people. It is in the same  
height with the North of *Spaine*, and  
South part of *France*, and the temper not  
much unlike, as pleasant, as temperate and  
as fertile as either, if managed by industri-  
ous hands.

That

### *A Battell in New England.*

This is the Stage. Let us in a word see the Actors. The yeare 1620, a Company of English part out of the *Low Countries*, and some out of *London* and other parts; were sent for *Virginia*. But being cut short by want of wind, and hardnesse of the Winter, they landed themselves in this Countrey, enduring, with great hope and patience, all the misery that Desart could put upon them, and imployed their wits to make their best use of that then Snow-covered land for their necessities. After two yeares experience of the nature of the soyle, commodities, and natives, they returned such intelligence to their Masters, that others tooke notice of their endeavours, and the place. Then some Western Merchants collected a stocke, and employed it that way. But they discouraged through losses, and want of present gaine, some Londoners, and others (men of worth) undertooke it, with more resolution, building upon the old foundation. Hence a second plantation adjoynd to the other, but supported  
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with better pillars , and greater meanes. All beginnings are ever difficult. The halfe,saith the Proverbe , is more then the whole. Some errours were committed, and many miseries were endured. No man is wise enough to shunne all evils that may happen ; but patience and painefulnesse overcame all. The successe proved answerable even to ambitious expectations, notwithstanding the impediments inevitable to such undertakings.

There is scarce any part of the world but habitable , though more commodiously by humane culture. This part ( though in it's Naturals ) nourished many natives, distinguished into divers petty nations and factions. It were needlesse curiosity to dispute their originall, or how they came hither. Their outsidess say they are men, their actions say they are reasonable. As the thing is, so it operateth. Their correspondency of disposition with us, argueth all to be of the same constitution, & the sons of *Adam*, and that we had the same Maker, the same matter, the same  
B mould.

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mould. Only *Art* and *Grace* have given us that perfection, which yet they want, but may perhaps be as capable thereof as we. They are of person straight and tall, of limbes big and strong, seldome scene violent, or extreme in any passion. Naked they go except a skin about their waste, and sometimes a Mantle about their shoulders. Armed they are with Bowes and Arrowes, Clubs, lavelins, &c. But as foyle, aire, diet, & custome make oft times a memorable difference in mens natures, so is it among these Nations, whose countries there are like so many Shires here, of which every one hath their Sagamore, or King, who as occasion urgeth, commandeth them in Warre, and ruleth them in Peace. Those where the *English* pitched, have shewed themselves very loving and friendly, and done courtesies beyond expectation for these new-come Inmates. So that much hath beene written of their civilitie and peacefull conversation, untill this yeare.

But Nature, heavens daughter, and the  
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immediate character of that divine power, as by her light she hath taught us wisdom, for our owne defence, so by her fire she hath made us fierce, injurious, revengefull, and ingenious in the device of meanes for the offence of those we take to be our enemies. This is secne in creatures voide of reason, much more in mankind. We have in us a mixture of all the Elements, and fire is predominant when the humours are exagitated. All motion causeth heat. All provocation mooveth choller, and choller inflamed, becommeth a phrensie, a fury, especially in barbarous and cruell natures. These things are conspicuous in the Inhabitants of *New England*. In whose Southermost part are the *Pequets*, or *Pequants*, a stately warlike people, which have been terrible to their neighbours, and troublesome to the *English*.

In *February* last they killed some *English* at *Sea-brooke*, a Southerly Plantation beyond *Cape Cod*, at the mouth of the River of *Connectacutt*. Since that the

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Lieutenant of the Fort there, with tenne men armed, went out to fire the Meadows, and to fit them for mowing. Arriving there he started three *Indians*, which he pursued a little way, thinking to cut them off. But presently they perceived themselves incompassed with hundreds of them, who let flie their arrowes furiously, and came desperately upon the musles of their Muskets, though the *English* discharged upon them, with all the speed they could. Three *English* men were were slaine, others wounded. The eight that remained, made their way through the *Salvages* with their swords, and so got under the command of the Canon of the Fort, (otherwise they had been all slaine, or taken prisoners) one of the wounded falling downe dead at the Forts Gate. The *Indians* thus fleshed and encouraged, besieged the Fort as neere as they durst approach. The besieged presently dispatched a messenger to the Governour at the *Bay*, to acquaint him with these sad tidings, who with all speed lent  
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unto their aide, Captaine *Vnderhill*, with twenty souldiers. Not long after these *Salvages* went to *Water-Towne*, now called *Wetherfield*, and there fell upon some that were sawing, and slew nine more, whereof one was a woman, the other a childe, and tooke two yong Maids prisoners, killing some of their cattell, and driving some away. Mans nature insulteth in victory and prosperity, and by good successe is animated even in the worst of wicked actions. These *Barbarians* triumphed and proceeded, drawing into their Confederacy other *Indians*, as the *Nyante-cets*, and part of the *Mohigens*; of whom about fifty chose rather to joyne with the *English*, and sat downe at *New-Towne*, at *Connectacut* (now called *Hereford*, as the other Towne that went from *Dorchester* thither is called *Windsore*.) Fame encreaseth by flying. The former sad newes was augmented by the report of sixtie men slain at Master *Pinch*, & *Plantation*, &c. which proved false. The *Norwagans* neighbours to the *Pequets*, lent word to

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the *English* that the *Pequets* had solicited them to joyne their forces with them. Hereupon the Councell ordered that none should go to worke, nor travell, nor not so much as to Church, without Arms. A Corps of Guard of 14. or 15 souldiers was appointed to watch every night, and Centinels were set in convenient places about the Plantations, the Drumme beating when they went to the Watch, and every man commanded to be in readinesse upon an Alarme, upon paine of five pound. A day of fast and prayers was also kept. Fourty more were sent to strengthen the former twenty that went to the Fort, and 50 under the command of Captain *Mason*, which being conjoyned, were about 100. Two hundred more were to be sent after them with all expedition.

The 50 *Mohigins* that joyned with the *English*, scouring about, espied 7 *Pequets*, killed five of them outright, wounded the sixth mortally, took the seventh prisoner, and brought him to the Fort. He braved the *English*, as though they durst not kill a

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*Pequet.* Some will have their courage to be thought invincible, when all is desperate. But it availed this Salvage nothing; they tied one of his legs to a post, and 20 men with a rope tied to the other, pulled him in pieces, Captain *Vnderhill* shooting a pistol through him, to dispatch him. The two Maids which were taken prisoners were redeemed by the *Dutch*.

Those 50 sent from the three plantations of *Connectacut* with Captain *Mason*, being joyned with Captain *Vnderhill* and his 20 men, (for the other 40 were not yet arrived with them) immediately went upon an expedition against the *Pequets*, after they had searched for them. The manner was this. The *English* with some *Mohigens* went to the *Naragonsets*, who were discontented that they came no sooner, saying they could arme and set forth two or three hundred at six houres warning, (which they did accordingly, for the assistance of the *English*) onely they desired the advice of the *Sagamore*, *Mydutonno*, what way they should go to worke, and how they should fall on the *Pequets*: whose judgement, in all things, agreed with the *English*, as though they had consulted together. Then went they to the *Nyanticke*, and  
he



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he set forth 200 more, but before they went, he swore them after his maner upon their knees. As they marched they deliberated which Fort of the *Pequets* they should assault, resolving upon the great Fort, and to be there that night. Being on the way, and having a mile to march through woods and Swamps, the *Nyanticke* hearts failed, for feare of the *Pequets*, and so they ran away, as also did some of the *Narragansets*. Of five or 600 *Indians*, not above halfe were left: and they had followed the rest had not Captaine *Vnderhill* upbraided them with cowardise, and promised them they should not fight or come within shot of the Fort, but onely surround it as farre off. At breake of day the 70 *English* gave the Fort a Volly of shot, whereat the *Salvages* within made an hideous and pittifull cry, the shot without all question flying through the *Pallisadoes* (which stood not very close) and killing or wounding some of them. Pitty had hindred further hostile proceedings, had not the remembrance of the bloodshed, the captive Maid, and cruell infolency of those *Pequets*, hardned the hearts of the *English*, & stopped their cares unto their cries. Mercy marres all somtimes, severe Iustice must now and then take place. The



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The long forbearance, and too much lenitie of the English toward the Virginian Salvages, had like to have beene the destruction of the whole Plantation. These Barbarians (ever treacherous) abuse the goodnesse of those that condescend to their rudenesse and imperfections. The English went, resolutely up to the dore of the Fort. What shall wee enter said Captaine Under-bill? What come we for else? answered one Hedge, a young Northampton-shire gentleman: who advancing before the rest, pluckt away some bushes and entered. A stout Pequet encounters him, shoots his arrow (drawne to the head) into his right arme, where it stuck. He slapt the Salvage betwixt the arme and shoulder, who pressing towards the dore, was killed by the English. Immediately Master Hedge incountred another, who perceiving him upon him before he could deliver his arrow, gave backe: but he struck up his heeles and run him thorow; after him hee killed two or three more. Then about halfe the English entered, fell on with courage, and slew manie. But being straitned for roome because of the Wigwams (which are the Salvage huts or cabins) they called for fire to burne them. An English man stept into a Wigwam and stooping for a fire-brand, an Indian



was ready to knock out his braines. But he whipt  
 out his sword and runne him into the belly, that  
 his bowels followed. Then were the Wigwams  
 set on fire, which so raged, that what therewith,  
 what with the sword, in little more than an  
 houre, betwixt three and foure hundred of them  
 were killed, and of the English onely two, one of  
 them by our owne Muskets, as is thought. For  
 the Narragansets beset the Fort so close, that not  
 one escaped. The whole worke ended, ere the  
 Sun was an houre high, the Conquerors retraited  
 downe toward the Pinnacle, but in their march  
 were infested by the rest of the Pequets: who  
 scouting up and downe, from the swamps and  
 thickets let flie their arrowes amaine, which were  
 answered by English bullets. The Indians that  
 then assisted the English, waiting the fall of the  
 Pequets, (as the dogge watcheth the shot of the  
 fouler to fetch the prey) still fetched them their  
 heades, as any were slaine. At last the Narragan-  
 sets perceiving powder and shot to faile, and fea-  
 ring to fall into the hands of their enemies, be-  
 tooke themselves to flight upon the sudden, and  
 were as suddenly encompassed by the Pequets:  
 Feare defeateth great armies. If an apprehension  
 of eminent danger once possesse them, it is in  
 vaine



vaine to stay the runne awaies. No oratory can recall them, no command can order them againe. The onely sure way, is by all meanes that may be, promises, threats, perswasions, &c. to maintaine and keepe up courage, where yet it is. But these fearefull companions had one Anchor, whose cable was not broken. They sent speedily to the English, who came to their reskew: and after five Muskets discharged the Pequets fled. Thus freed from that feare, they vowed henceforth to cleave closer to the English, and never to forsake them in time of need. The reason why the English wanted amunition was, because they had left that which they had for store with their drum at the place of their consultation: But found it in their returne. They now all went a ship-board and sailed to Seabrooke-Fort, where the English feasted the Narragansets three daies, and then sent them home in a pinnace.

Let mee now describe this military fortresse which naturall reason & experience hath taught them to erect, without mathematicall skill, or use of yron tooles. They choole a piece of ground dry and of best advantage, forty or fifty foote square. (But this was at least 2 acres of ground.) here they pitch close together, as they can young



trees and halfe trees, as thicke as a mans thigh,  
 or the calfe of his legge. Ten or twelve foote  
 high they are above the ground, and within ram-  
 med three foote deepe, with undermining, the  
 earth being cast up for their better shelter against  
 the enemies dischargements. Betwixt these pal-  
 lizadoes are divers loope-holes, through which  
 they let flie their winged messengers. The doore  
 for the most part is entered side-waies, which  
 they stop with boughes or bushes as need requi-  
 reth. The space within is full of Wigwams, where-  
 in their wives and children live with them.  
 These huts or little houses are framed like our  
 garden arbours, something more round, very  
 strong and handsome, covered with close  
 wrought mats, made by their women of flagges,  
 rushes, and hempen threds, so defensive, that  
 neither raine, though never so sad and long, nor  
 yet the winde, though never so strong can enter.  
 The top through a square hole giveth passage to  
 the smoke, which in rainy weather, is covered  
 with a pluver. This Fort was so crowded with  
 these numerous dwellings, that the English wan-  
 ted foote-roome to grapple with their adversaries,  
 and therefore set fire on all.

The Mohigens which sided with the English



in this action behaved themselves stoutly. Which the other Pequets understanding, cut off all the Mohigens that remaine with them, ( lest they should turne to the English ) except seven: who flying to our Countrey-men related this newes, and that about an hundred Pequets were slaine or hurt, in the fight with the English at their returne from the Fort. Moreover that they had resolved to have sent an hundred choyce men out of their Fort as a party against the English, the very day after they were beaten out by them. But being now vanquished Sasacus the Pequetan Captaine, with the remainder of this massacre was fled the Countrey.

It is not good to give breathing to a beaten enemy, lest he returne armed if not with greater puissance, yet with greater despight and revenge. Too much security or neglect in this kinde hath oft times ruined the Conquerours. The 200 English therefore, resolved on before, were now sent forth to chase the Barbarians and utterly roote them out. Whereupon Cap. *Vnderbill* with his 20 men returned and gave this account of those exploits of the New-Englanders, which here we have communicated to the old English world. This last partic invaded the Pequetan Countrey,



was broken, that hee brought two of their heads to the armie. His owne desert and the encouragement of others will not suffer him to bee namelesse. Hee is called *Francis Waine-wright*, and came over servant with one *Alexander Knight* that kept an Inne in *Chelmsford*.

I have done with this tragick scene, whole catastrophe ended in a triumph. And now give mee leave to speake something of the present state of things there. The transcribing of all Colonies is chargeable, fittest for Princes or states to undertake. Their first beginnings are full of casualty and danger, and obnoxious to many miseries. They must bee well grounded, well followed, and managed with great stocks of money, by men of resolution, that will not bee daunted by ordinarie accidents. The *Bermuda's* and *Virginia* are come to perfection from meane, or rather base beginnings, and almost by as weake meanes, beyond all expectation, and reason. But a few private men by uniting their stocks and desires have now raised new-England to that height, that never any plantation of Spaniards, Dutch, or any other arrived at in so small a time. Gaine is the load-stone of adventures: Fish and Furs, with Beaver wooll,  
were



were specious baits. But whiles men are all for their private profit, the publique good is neglected and languisheth. Woe-full experience had too evidently instructed New Englands Colonies in the precedents of Guiana, the Charibe Islands, Virginia, and Novonia, or New-found-land, (now againe to bee planted by Sir *David Kirke*, though part of the old planters there yet remaine.) Wee are never wiser, than when wee are thus taught. The new Englanders therefore advanced the weale publique all they could, and so the private is taken care for.

Corne and Cattell are wonderfully encreased with them, and thereof they have enough, yea sometime to spare to new commers, besides spare roomes, or good houses to entertaine them in. Where they may make Christmas fires all winter, if they please for nothing. I speake not of the naturals of the Countrey, fish, fowle, &c. which are more than plentiful. They that arrived there this yeere out of divers parts of Old England say that they never saw  
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such a field of 400 acres of all sorts of English graine as they saw at Winter-towne there. Yet that ground is not comparable to other parts of New England, as Salem, Ipswich, Newberry, &c. In a word, they have built faire Townes of the lands owne materials, and faire Ships too, some where of are here to be seene on the Thames. They have overcome cold and hunger, are dispersed securely in their Plantations sixty miles along the coast, and within the Land also along some small Creekes and Rivers, and are assured of their peace by killing the Barbarians, better than our English Virginians were by being killed by them. For having once terrified them, by severe execution of just revenge, they shall never heare of more harme from them, except (perhaps) the killing of a man or two at his worke, upon advantage, which their Centinels, and Corps du guards may easily prevent. Nay, they shall have those brutes their servants, their slaves, either willingly or of necessity, and docible enough, if not obsequious. The numbers of the English



English amount to above thirty thousand, which (though none did augment them out of England) shall every day bee, doubtlesse, encreased, by a facultie that God hath given the Brittish Islanders to beget and bring forth more children, than any other nation of the world: I could justifie what I say from the mouthes of the Hollanders and adjoyning Provinces, wherethey confesse (though good breeders of themselves) that never woman bore two children, nor yet had so many by one man, till the English and Scotch frequented their warres and married with them. I could give a good reason hereof from nature, as a Philosopher (with modestie bee it spoken) but there is no neede. The aire of new England, and the Diet equall, if not excellling that of old England: besides their honour of marriage, and carefull preventing and punishing of furtive congression giveth them and us no small hope of their future puissance, and multitude of subjects. Herein, saith the Wileman, consisteth the strength of a King, and likewise of a nation, or Kingdome.

But the desire of more gaine, the slavery of mankind, was not the onely cause of our English endeavours for a plantation there. The propagation of Religion was that precious jewell, for which these Merchant venturers compassed both Sea and Land, and went into a farre Country to search and fear themselves. This, I am sure, they pretended, and I hope intended. O nely this blessing from my heart I sincerely wish them, and shall ever beseech the Almighty to bestow upon them, devout Piety towards God, faithfull loyaltie towards their Sovereigne, fervent charity among themselves, and discretion and sobriety in themselves, according to the saying of that blessed Apostle, *μη υπερβασειν παρ ὃ δεῖ φρονεῖν, ἀλλὰ φρονεῖν εἰς τὸ σφραγισθῆναι.* **Rom. 12.3.** Not to bee wise ( in spirituall things ) above what wee ought to bee wise; but to bee wise unto wise sobriety.

Doubtlesse there was no other way better to chastise the intolencie of these insulting homicides, than a sharpe warre pursued with dexterity and speed. *Virginia* our mother plantation, and for her precedent a rule, hath  
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taught us what to do in these difficulties; forewarned, forearmed. They were endangered by their friendship and peace, secured by their enmity and warre with the natives. From these experiments, shall the now inhabitants of those two Sister Lands, beat out unto themselves an Armour of proofe, and lay a sure foundation to their future happiness.

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*FINIS.*

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*Nihil obstare videtur quominus hæc  
Relatio typis mandetur.*

Novemb. ix. M.DC.xxxvii.

G. R. W E C K H E R L I N.





